Being the Best that We can be!

Newsletter Issue 3: Term 3 2025

Message from the Team

Wow! What a busy term it has been, and it has ended with a fantastic celebration with History Day today. The children took part in many activities and had the opportunity to show off their learning via QUEST activities – make sure to ask them about it! The school had a real buzz and it was lovely to see such enjoyment from the children!

We wish you a restful half term break. If during this period you need support, many of the local agencies are available at St. Stephens Church Café on a Tuesday morning.
https://ststephens.org.uk/cafe/

Reading Challenge:

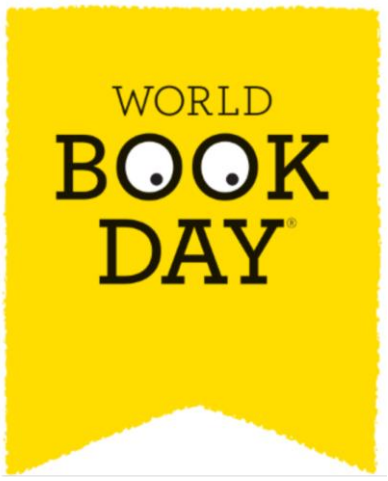
Take a photo of your child reading their favourite book in an unusual location.

Send it into the office alongside a summary of what happens in their book (this could be a written review, or a video of them talking about it).

We will choose three winners across the school who have both read in a creative way and who have provided an interesting description of their book!

We look forward to seeing the adventures you go on!

Deadline: Monday 3rd March



Dates for your diary

Start of Term 4 - Monday 24th February
High Hopes assembly - Monday 3rd March

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March
Malawi workshops and assembly - Thursday 13th March
Parent Consultations - Tuesday 18th March and Wednesday 19th March
Tonbridge Choir event - Wednesday 19th March
Kent Fire Service visit - Wednesday 26th March
PTA own clothes day - Friday 28th March
Year R class assembly - Wednesday 2nd April
End of Term 4 - Friday 4th April 2025
Start of Term 5 - Tuesday 22nd April

HELP! Forest School

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Forest School sessions.

If you are happy to be outside in all weathers, don't mind a bit of mud and would like to help our children with their outdoor exploration please do get in touch.

House Points

	Term 3
Angel	4985
Barden	4414
Castle	5077
Haysden	5076

Congratulations to Castle for winning in Term 3.

We will let you know when you are having your own clothes day next term!

Reminders

Cold weather

The weather is often wet and cold, so please ensure that your children are appropriately dressed for the weather and bring coats to school.

PE Kit

Please ensure that your children have their correct PE kit for their PE days (see year group curriculum communication sheets for details of the days)

Attendance

Our attendance figures for the term are:

Year R	**90.38%**
Year 1	**97.27%**
Year 2	**94%**
Year 3	**95.67%**
Year 4	**87.67%**
Year 5	**88.93%**
Year 6	**92.33%**
Whole School	**94.2%**

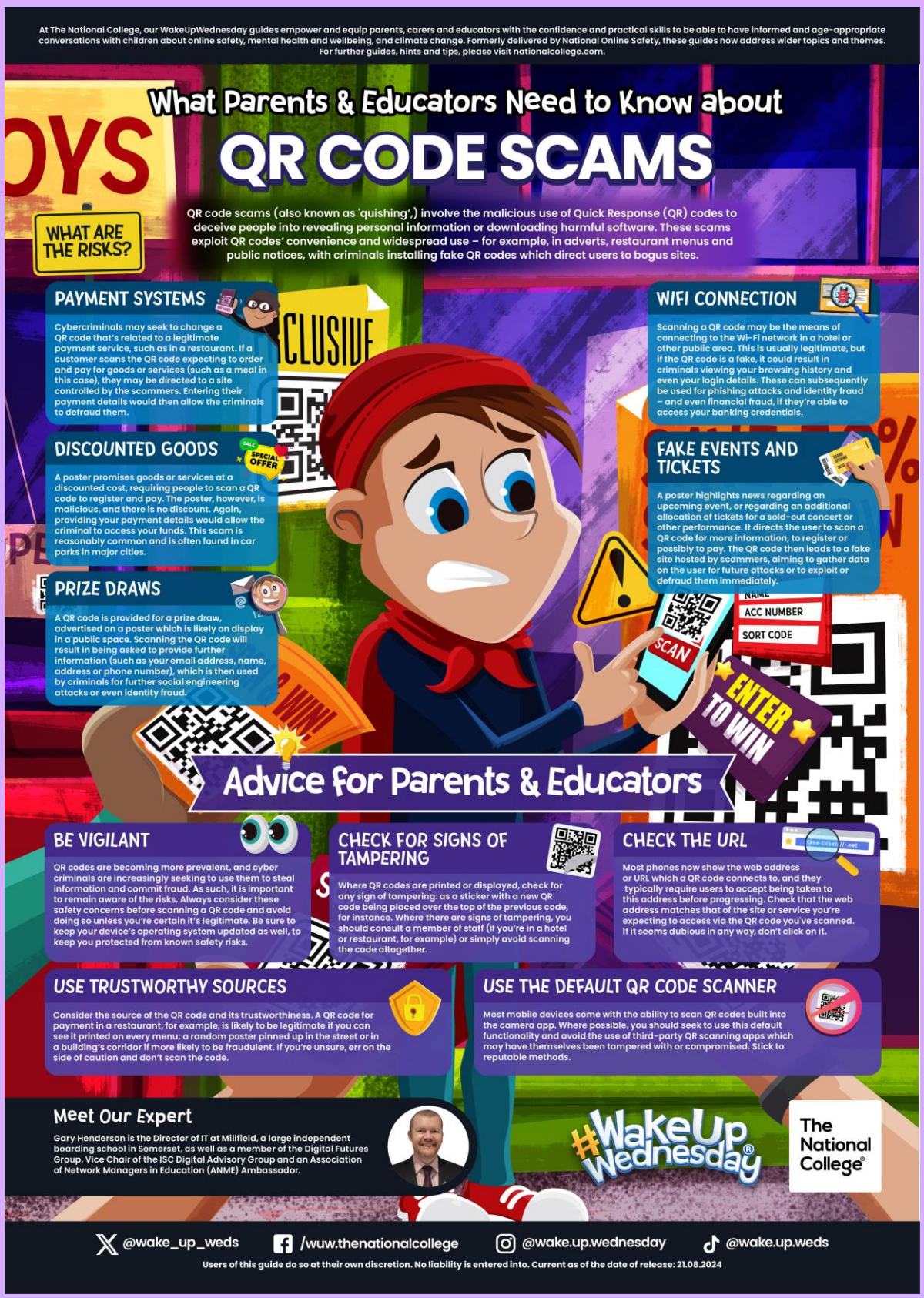
Well done Year 1!

Don't' forget that you can check your child's attendance at any time on Arbor.

If your child's attendance has dropped below 90% this is classed as persistent absenteeism, and we will be contacting you again in the New Year. We want to work with our families to ensure your child is attending school whenever possible.

If you're child's attendance is between 90% and 94% this is a concern and we may send you further letters, in line with our statutory duties.

Spotlight on... safeguarding



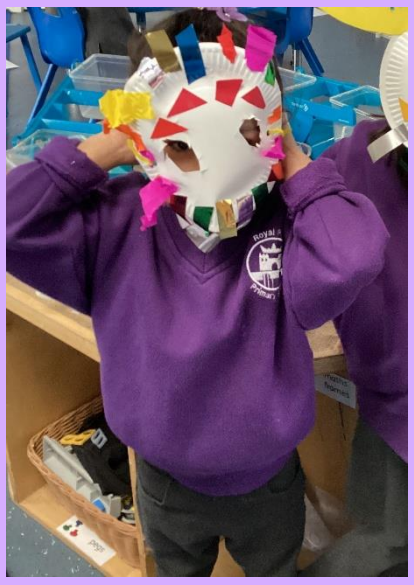
QUEST Term 3

The whole school enjoyed QUEST today and could confidently tell Mrs Fowler in assembly what they had been doing and what QUEST stands for – questioning, understanding, explaining, summarising and teamwork.

History Day

The children loved learning more about their historical period and getting to dress up!

News from around the school... Year R



Reception class have loved thinking about their personal history, learning about timelines to order their photos from babies to now. They have loved telling us all about their families and explored their family tree.

In Maths we have been continuing to learn about numbers up to 7 as well as measuring mass, which we commonly call weight, using words like heavier than or lightest, whilst exploring balancing scales.

We have loved learning about Lunar New year, making dragon masks and eating prawn flavoured crackers. To finish of the term, we were inspired by stories written in the past to have a lovely tea party, but unlike the Tiger Who Came to Tea, we were great at sharing!

News from around the school... Year 1

Once again year 1 have had an amazing term. In Dt the children made fabulous puppets which they created using marvellous joining skills!

This term we have enjoyed some outdoor adventures by exploring forest school.

In history the children have discovered famous explorers. Following in their footsteps year 1 went on their own exploration and discovered new areas of the school that they have never entered before, such as the staff room!

Also, in history the children have investigated space travel and discovered the fantastic events that happened on the 20th July 1969.

Well, done year 1 keep exploring.

News from around the school... Year 2

This term, Year 2 learnt how it felt to be a responsible archaeologist. We set up a mini 'dig' in our classroom and used brushes to gentle move the sand off the artifacts. The children learnt how the closer you came to the artifact the gentler you had to be. We didn't want any Ancient Egyptian finds being damaged! We wanted others to learn about from the objects we had found.

News from around the school... Year 3

Salve! This term, Year 3 have been so busy learning all about the Rotten Romans, the Savage Stone Age and other cool prehistory in their History learning. We have also been practising hard for our assembly, which went so well!

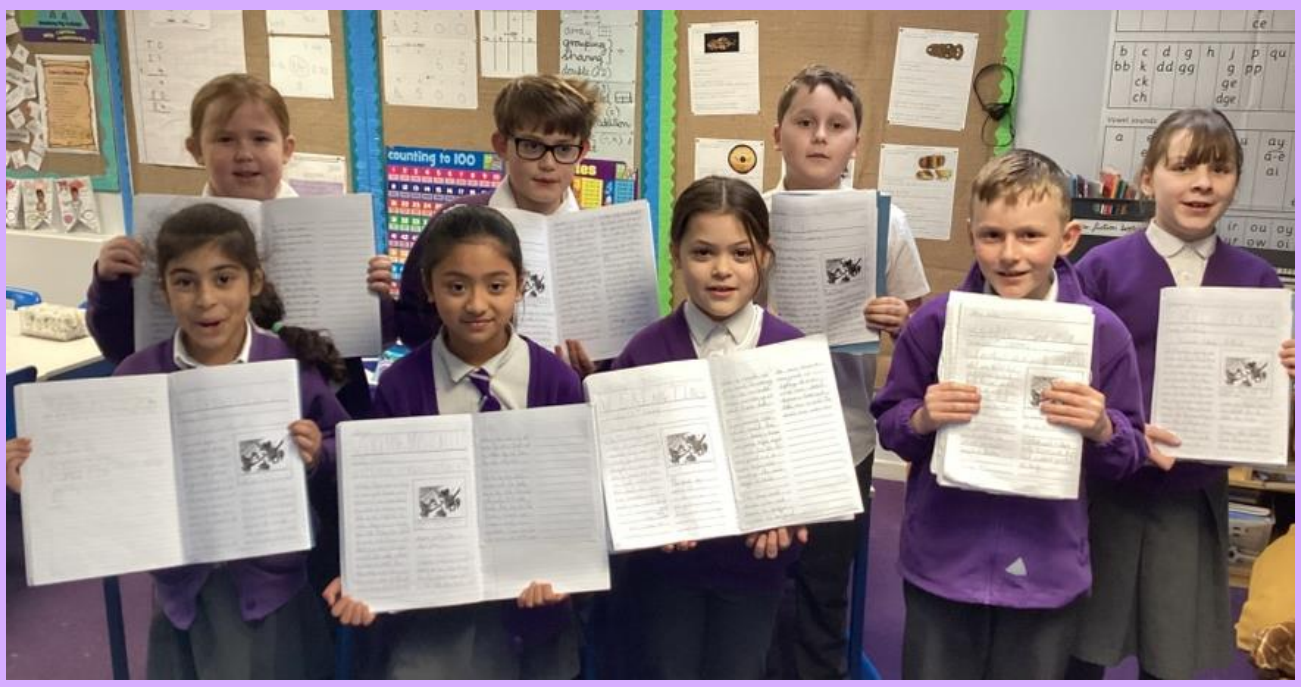
We also got a little messy (okay, very messy!) making our own paint out of spices, berries and even mud! We then got even messier and channelled our inner caveman, making a fantastic class artwork based on cave paintings.

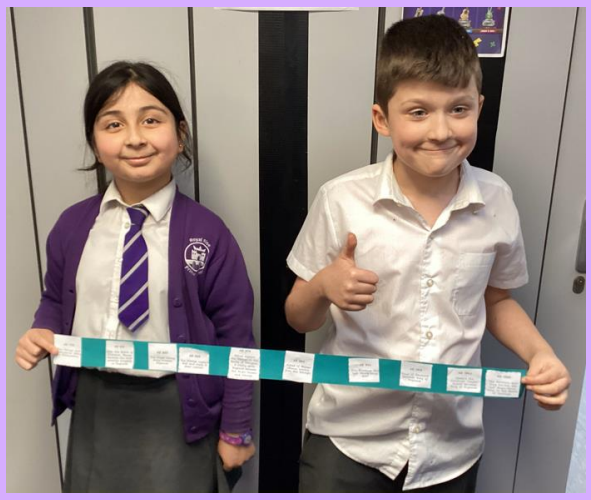
We have worked very hard this term and have definitely earned a relaxing half term! Vale!

News from around the school... Year 4

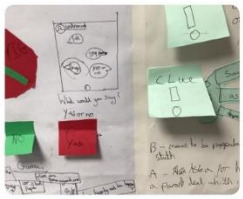
This term, Year 4 have enjoyed learning about the Vikings. In History, they worked together to create timelines by placing events in chronological order. They have also learnt about important trade routes, longships and key Viking achievements. Linked to this topic, Year 4 have been reading the book Viking Boy by Tony Bradman. The children have written newspaper reports based on the beginning of the story to show off how they can use paragraphs, fronted adverbials and subordinating conjunctions.

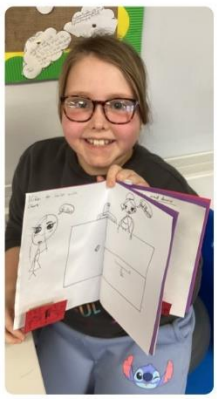
Well done on all your hard work this term. Have a lovely half-term!

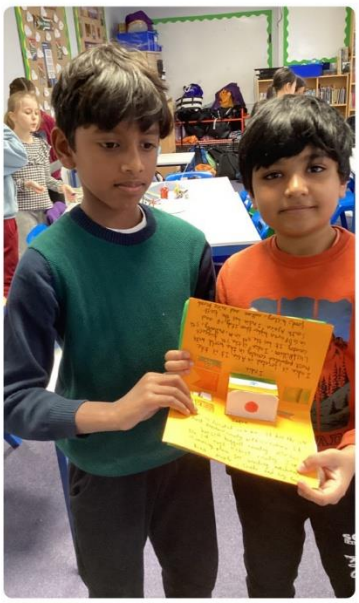




News from around the school... Year 5







Year 5 has had a fantastic term filled with exciting learning experiences!

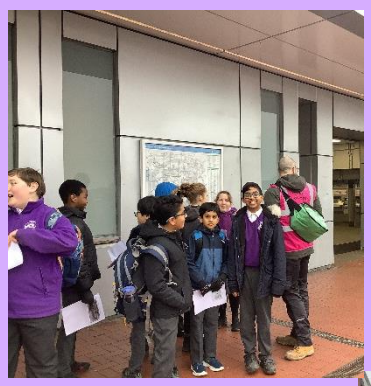
As part of our history topic on ancient civilisations, we had a special visitor who brought interesting artifacts and explained how people lived in the past. The children were captivated by the hands-on experience and enjoyed discovering more about ancient societies.

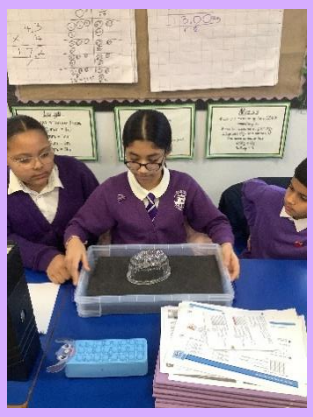
Online safety was another important focus this term. James, a former police officer, visited our class share with us how to stay safe online. His talk was so inspiring that we created posters to spread awareness and even helped Mrs. Caputo with the Online Safety class assembly.

In DT, we designed and made our own pop-up books! We can't wait to share them with our Year R buddies and read them together.

It's been a term full of exploration and creativity, and we can't wait to continue our journey next term!

News from around the school... Year 6





Year 6 have been really engaged with their history topic this term! They amazed our visitor from The Amelia with their knowledge of Queen Victoria and her life and they really enjoyed trying to find out what the artefacts were used for.

Yesterday, they enjoyed their walk round Tonbridge to see the Victorian history of our town.

The children have been working really hard across the curriculum and we are really proud of the progress that they are making.